T-598

Wrightson Jones House

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 04-05-2004

T-598 c. 1811-1820, c. 1850
Wrightson Jones House
St. Michaels
private

This simple two-story frame house has had a more complex building history than one would guess from a cursory glance of the straightforward looking exterior. At least the first floor of the front block dates to the first decades of the nineteenth century since the structure was initially built as a single-story or story-and-a-half dwelling not unlike its immediate neighbors. During the third quarter of the nineteenth century the house was raised with the addition of a full second floor, and materials such as nine-over-six sash windows and raised panel doors were relocated throughout the house. At the same tima of the raising, the first floor plan was evidently reworked to follow a side hall/double-pile arrangement.

Although this dwelling has some serious structural problems, the complex building history of the small house as well as its prominent corner location make this dwelling historically important to this early part of St. Michaels development.

Wrightson Jones is recorded in the Talbot County land records as the grantee of Lots 31 and 32 of Harrison's Square in 1811, and it is presumed he improved the property with the single story house that he either rented or occupied himself. The next deed reference to the site was not recorded until 1850 when Francis A. and Ellen J. Wrightson transferred ownership of the corner lot to Francis Jefferson. It is most reasonable that during the forty-year period that the Jeffersons owned the house that they raised the structure and reworked the interior. After the turn of the century the house was held primarily by the Dodson and Gardener families.

Survey No. T-598

Magi No. 2105985304

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Wrightson Jones House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 201 Locust Street ___ not for publication

city, town St. Michaels ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
x building(s)	x private	x unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	x private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	x yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	x not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name James A. Valiant

street & number 201 Locust Street telephone no.:

city, town St. Michaels state and zip code MD. 21663

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber 611

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 105

city, town Easton state MD. 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

te ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-~~698~~ 578

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	x original site
___ good	___ ruins	x altered	___ moved date of move _____
x fair	___ unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Wrightson Jones house stands on the southeast corner of the intersection of Carpenters Alley and Locust Street in the center of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame house faces west with the principal gable oriented on a north/south axis.

This simple two-story frame house has had a more complex building history than one would guess from a cursory glance of the straightforward looking exterior. At least the first floor of the front block dates to the first decades of the nineteenth century since the structure was initially built as a single-story or story-and-a-half dwelling not unlike its immediate neighbors. During the third quarter of the nineteenth century the house was raised with the addition of a full second floor, and materials such as nine-over-six sash windows and raised-panel doors were relocated throughout the second floor. At the same time of the raising, the first floor plan was evidently reworked to follow a side hall/double-pile arrangement.

Supported by a minimal brick foundation the two-story house is uniformly sheathed with vinyl siding and covered by a medium pitched asphalt shingle roof. A off-center single flue brick stack pierces the roofline. Attached to the back of the house is a single story, one-room plan kitchen.

The west (main) elevation is an asymmetrical three-bay facade with a side entrance in the north bay and a pair of four-over-four sash windows filling the adjacent two bays. The second floor is lighted by a pair of four-over-four sash windows. The eave to the roof is finished with a plain boxed cornice.

The north gable end elevation is marked by a symmetrical fenestration with two window openings on each floor and a single light illuminating the attic. Fixed in the western bay of both the first and second floor are nine-over-six sash windows, while the other three windows have six-over-six divisions. The gable end is flush.

The south side, on the other hand, is marked by an exterior brick stove stack and single six-over-six sash windows that light the first and second floor east of the stack.

The east (rear) facade is largely covered by the single story kitchen wing, however a six-over-six sash window along with a modern single pane window light the second floor. The kitchen is a two-bay by one room frame structure covered by a medium pitched gable roof. An interior end brick stack pierces the roofline. The eaves are finished with simple boxed cornices and the gable end is flush. The south wall of the kitchen is marked by a four-panel door and a six-over-six sash window, while the east gable is pierced by an off-center four-over-four sash window. The north side is pierced by a pair of six-over-six sash windows.

(continued)

DESCRIPTION (continued)

The interior of the house is finished with a mixture of early nineteenth and mid nineteenth century woodwork. The stair appears to date from the second period with a heavily turned newel post, a decorated stringer and a oval-profile handrail. The space under the stair is accessible through an old raised four-panel door in the back room that was reused from the earlier interior. An early raised six-panel door remains on the back wall of the house when entering the kitchen. Otherwise the woodwork on the first floor dates from the mid to late nineteenth century. There are a few reused six-panel doors on the second floor as well.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-598

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	_x_ architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
_x_ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: __A __B _X_C __D
and/or
Applicable Exception: __A __B __C __D __E __F __G

Level of Significance: __national __state _X_ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SIGNIFICANCE

Although this dwelling has some serious structural problems, the complex building history of the small house as well as its prominent corner locations make this structure historically important to this part of St. Michaels. The first floor of the main block as well as some interior finishes date to the early nineteenth century. Not unlike several other houses in the immediate vicinity, the original single story house was raised to accomodate a second floor around 1850.

STORY AND SUPPORT

Wrightson Jones is recorded in the Talbot County land records as the grantee of Lots 31 and 32 of Harrison's Square in 1811, and it is presumed he improved the property with the single-story house that he rented or occupied himself.(34/684) The next deed reference to the site was not recorded until 1850 when Francis A. and Ellen J. Wrightson transferred ownership of the corner lot to Francis Jefferson.(63/305) It is most reasonable that during the forty-year period that the Jeffersons owned the house that they raised the structure and reworked the interior. After the turn of the century the house was held primarily by the Dodson and Gardener families.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-598

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____ **Quadrangle scale** _____

UTM **References** do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul Touart - Architectural Historian		
organization	Historic St. Michaels	**date**	9/17/87
street & number		**telephone**	
city or town	St. Michaels	**state**	MD. 21663

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

PS-2746

T-598

Waightstown Jones House

FRANCIS JEFFERSON HOUSE

T-598

YEAR: 1986 VOL: 611 PAGE: 105
FROM: Ruth N. Tinker, by Attorney-in-fact, Patricia C. Thomas PRICE: $217,500
TO: Henry J. Hobbs, Jr. and James A. Valliant
NOTES There are three parcels on this deed. T-598 is Parcel Three.(T-591 is Parcel One.) The deed also refers to a plat, 1926, 206/481. The plat and deed are included here.
Conveyed to Franklin L. Tinker and Ruth N. Tinker by Mary E. Gardner 1963, 389/272.

YEAR: 1963 VOL: 389 PAGE: 272
FROM: Mary E. Gardner PRICE: $2,500
TO: Franklin L. Tinker and Ruth N. Tinker
NOTES Described as being on the SE corner of Locust Street and Carpenter's Alley.
Conveyed to Mary E. Gardner by Richard S. Dodson and wife 1926, 206/480.

YEAR: 1926 VOL: 206 PAGE: 480
FROM: Richard S. Dodson and wife PRICE:
TO: Mary E. Gardner
NOTES Deed with plat (part of deed) attached.
Conveyed to Richard S. Dodson by Robert A. Dodson, et al. Trustees under the will of Richard S. Dodson, deceased 1903, 141/213. This is parcel four.

YEAR: 1903 VOL: 141 PAGE: 213
FROM: Robert A. Dodson, et al. PRICE: $10,430
TO: Richard S. Dodson
NOTES The sale was made by the heirs of Richard S. Dodson, dcd under will 15/54. There were five parcels: (1) Canton Farm; (2) Lot 6 Navy Point; (3) Lot 7 Navy Point; (4) Corner of Locust St and Carpenters' Alley; (5) Herring Island
The description is the same as previous ones, with 39'6" on Locust Street and 150 feet on Carpenter's Street, with the exception of 1876, 83/145.
Conveyed to Richard S. Dodson by William R. Martin and John W. Dean 1893, 119/144.

YEAR: 1893 VOL: 119 PAGE: 144
FROM: Wm. R Martin and John W. Dean, Asses. PRICE: $560
TO: Richard S. Dodson
NOTES A public sale on foreclosure of a mortgage from Edward M. and Helen N. Jefferson to John E. Caulk. Lot is 36' 9" on Locust.
The lot was inherited by Edward M. Jefferson from the late Francis Jefferson. The mortgage was 1890, 113/356 Edward M. Jefferson and Helen N. Jefferson to John E. Caulk.

Wrightson Jones House

YEAR: 1890 VOL: 113 PAGE: 356
FROM: Edward M. and Helen N. Jefferson PRICE:
TO: John E. Caulk
NOTES A mortgage for $400. The security is a lot inherited from his grandfather Francis Jefferson. Described in a deed 1850, 63/305 (Except that conveyed to John S. Hambleton 1876, 83/145.)

YEAR: 1850 VOL: 63 PAGE: 305
FROM: Francis A. Wrightson and Ellen Jane Wrightson PRICE: $100
TO: Francis Jefferson
NOTES A loton the corner of Locust Street and Carpenters' Alley. The demensions are 36'9" on Locust x 43' x 70'10" x 80' x 93' to Washington Melson x 150' on Carpenters' Alley.
The derivation of the lot is not given and from here back, the chain is confused

Ellen Jane Wrightson was Ellen Jane Graham. Thomas J. Harrison by his will (probated 1848) leaves his niece, Ellen Jane Graham, his leasehold estate in St. Michaels "being the lot leased to Denny Marshall, number 18 of the town plat also the lot adjoining the last, number 33 of the town plat also a half-lot adjoining the last number 32 of the town plat".
Lot number 18 is directly across Carpenter Street from the lot being considered here (#31); there is no lot 33 in Harrison's Square; lot 32 is the lot adjoining 31 and is part of this chain.

In any case, the land was part of "Joseph's Lot" (Stopper) held by the Harrisons since its acquisition by Joseph Harrison before 1778. It is probable that Joseph Harrison obtained title to "Stopper" - which he then renamed as "Joseph's Lot"- perhaps as early as 1768 by the process of "resurvey" through the Land Office at Annapolis. This data is not available at Easton and must be checked at Annapolis.

YEAR: 1811 VOL: 34 PAGE: 684
FROM: Joseph Harrison PRICE: lease
TO: Wrightson Jones
NOTES Lots number 31 and 32 in Harrison's Square. Begins 36' from the easternmost intersection of Locust Street and Carpenters Alley, on the north side of the street; running S 23 E 70 feet to the line of Braddock's Square; then with Braddock's line N 55 E 52 feet; then N 23 W 64 feet staight to the beginning.
No earlier mention of these lots has been found. From the description it would appear that the beginning of 36 feet from the corner eliminates the lot containing the structure under consideration but there is no mention of an occupant on the corner property. Perhaps Joseph Harrison already had a rental building there for the accomodation of the boatyard workers.

ICHAEL'S BUSINESS REFERENCES,

DODSON, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines, Chemals, Fine Toilet Soap, Fancy Hair and Tooth ushes, Perfumery and Fancy Toilet Articles, asses, Shoulder-Braces, Grass and Garden Seeds. e Wines and Liquors for Medicinal purposes, nts, Oils, Varnishes and Dye Stuffs, Letter Paper, ns, Ink, Envelopes, Glass, Putty, Carbon Oil, mps, Chimneys, &c. Physicians' Prescriptions carely Compounded.

HADDAWAY, Insurance Agent and Conveyancer.

N W. DEAN, Collector of Claims, Real Estate gent and Conveyancer.

ES DYOTT, Carpenter, Coptractor and Builder, op at St. Michael's.

RED H. HAMBLETON, Carpenter and Builder. Sh St. Michael's.

ES ON, Real Estate Agent and Collector of A.

SPAR S, Justice of the Peace and Collector.

SMITHMAN, Boot and Shoemaker. First ass work done on short notice. Repairing romptly and neatly done.

N S. HAMBLETON, Proprietor of "Hamleton's Mechanical Shop." Blacksmithing, Wheelrighting, and all work appertaining thereto. Intricate Machinery carefully repaired. Farming mplements on hand, and made to order at short otice. Carriage Repairing, Trimming and Painting Specially.

WILLIAM CAULK, Physician and Surgeon.

JAMES SETH, Physician and Surgeon, Office nd Residence near St. Michael's.

LIAM S. HARRISON, Blacksmith and Wagon Maker. Repairing promptly and neatly done. Shop in Broad Creek Neck.

C. NEAVITT & CO., Dealers in Dry Goods, Notions, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. Store in Broad Creek Neck.

IN T. HARRINGTON, Proprietor of "Williams House," Newly furnished and fitted. Table carefully catered for. All the luxuries of the season. Ample Stable Accommodations. Charges moderate.

NIEL J. KILMAN, Carriage Maker and Dealer in all kinds of Wagons.

ORGE W. COLLINS, Tinner. Worker in Tin, Sheet Iron, &c. Also Dealer in Stoves and Tin, and Sheet Iron ware of every description.

H. BLADES, Carpenter, Contractor, and Builder. Persons having work in this line will do well to see him before contracting.

SEPH HERGERSHEIMER, Ship Builder. Repairing of all kinds promptly and neatly done.

IVER FAIRBANK, Boot and Shoemaker. Is skilful in his profession. Those wanting first class work done will do well to patronize him.

RRISON & RICHARDSON, Carriage Makers. All work warranted. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

J. HOLLAND, Butcher and Dealer in Fresh Meat all kinds. Shop on Talbot Street.

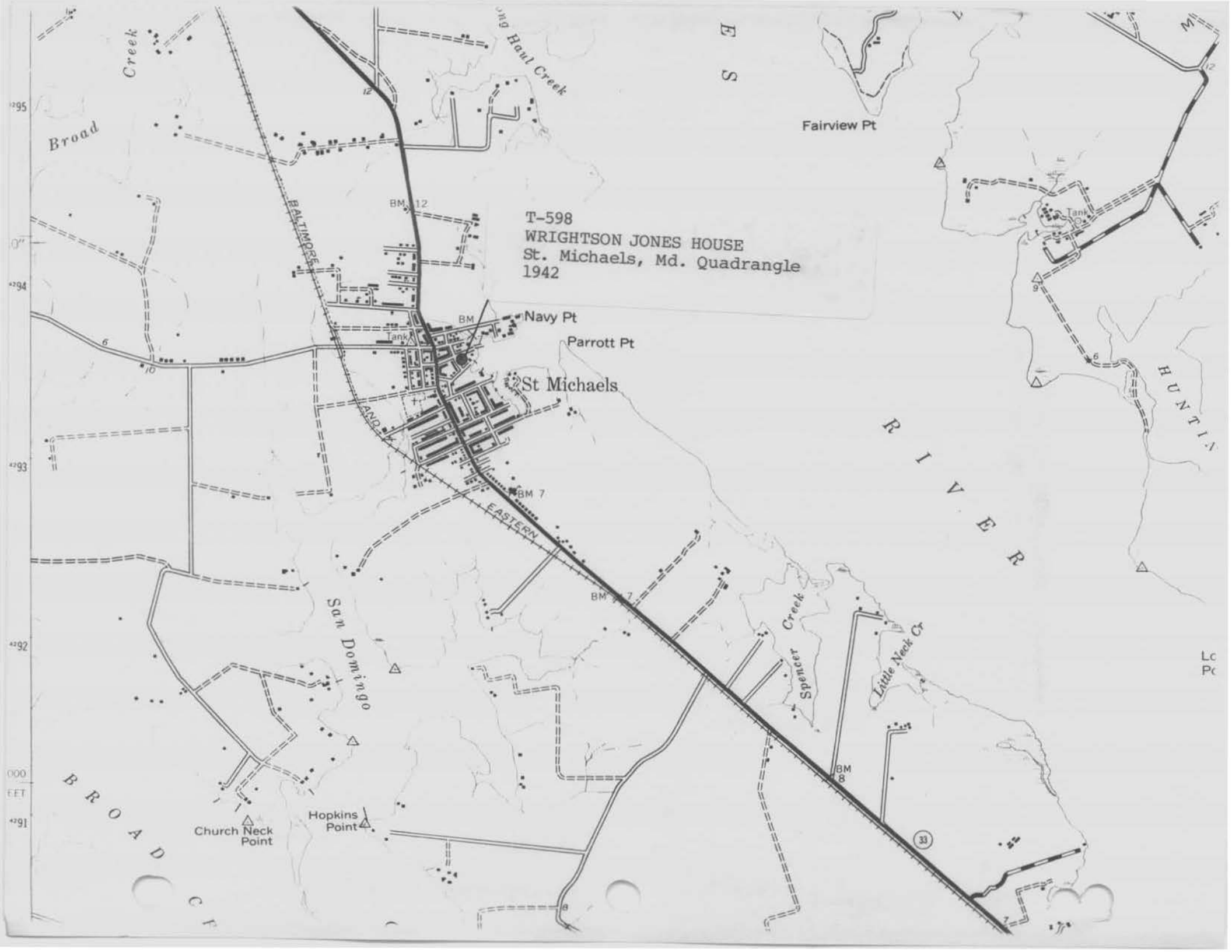
PT. LEONARD, Freighter of Grain of all kinds y point.

IOMA LADES, Of E. Dealer in Dry Goods, Notio ceries, Cigars, Tobacco, &c.

EM HARRISON, Dealer in Groceries, Confec ries &c.

S. KILMON, Carriage Maker and Dealer in Carriages, Wagons, &c. Repairing promptly and neatly done.

A. DODSON Physician and Suegeon.


T-598
WRIGHTSON JONES HOUSE
St. Michaels, Md. Quadrangle
1942
Broad Creek
Haul Creek
Fairview Pt
Navy Pt
Parrott Pt
St Michaels
BALTIMORE AND EASTERN
BM 12
BM
Tank
BM 7
BM 7
BM 8
San Domingo
Spencer Creek
Little Neck Cr
Church Neck Point
Hopkins Point
BROAD CR
RIVER
HUNTIN
33

STOP

WRIGHTSON JONES HOUSE T-598
St. Michaels, Talbot Co., Md.
Northwest elevation
4/87, Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

WRIGHTSON JONES HOUSE T-598
St. Michaels, Talbot Co., Md.
Southeast elevation
4/87, Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

WRIGHTSON JONES HOUSE T-598
St. Michaels, Talbot Co., Md.
Northwest elevation
4/87, Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

WRIGHTSON JONES HOUSE T-598
St. Michaels, Talbot Co., Md.
Door to stair closet
4/87, Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

WRIGHTSON JONES HOUSE T-598
St. Michaels, Talbot Co., Md.
Stair
4/87, Paul Touart
Neg./Md. Historical Trust